consumer packs of Besan processed and packed in the Super Bazar processing units. While Super Bazar ensures full market potential for its products, as a successful marketing organisation it can hardly close its eyes to the consumer requirements and demands for various variety and range of products available in the market.

(iii) Super Bazar is working as commission agent ignoring the interest of the consumers in its Fruit and Vegetable Department.

The Department of Fruits and Vegetable is working under the control of Super Bazar and it has not been handed over to private contractor.

(iv) Non-availability of common medicines for sale on account of delay in payment to the suppliers.

Super Bazar is providing consumer service through its retail outlets in major hospitals, in addition to a major retail outlet at Connaught Place and 11 mini branches located in various areas of Delhi and 6 working round the clock. The supply position has been made broad based and entire inventory put on computer, for easy availability of medicines.

(v) Super Bazar is working under constant political pressure and making appointments in far excess of the requirements.

Super Bazar has reported that there has been a total ban on recruitments for the last 6 years. During this period Super Bazar has opened two Regional Distribution Centres and 43 retail outlets while redeploying the existing staff in these outlets.

(vi) The growth rate in 1993-94 has been on account of inflation The inflation rate was 9.5 per cent whereas Super Bazar has registered a growth rate of 12.5 per cent during the year.

(vii) Working of Vigilance Department.

Vigilance set up of the organisation has been providing surveillance coverage to the entire trading operations right from the inception of Super Bazar.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) The working of Super Bazar is being periodically monitored by the Government.

Audits in Super Bazar..

735. SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether audits are carried out regularly in all branches/stores/ mobile vans/administrative offices including control room of Super Bazar Delhi;

(b) if so, how many times the audit has been conducted in the above units during the last three years;

(c) whether the audit report has shown losses suffered by the Super Bazar and if so, details thereof during the last three years;

(d) whether the report has shown losses in the grocery department of Connaught Place Branch and if so, details thereof;

(e) whether the audit report has pointed out any draw backs and if so, the remedial measures proposed thereon; and

(f) steps taken or proposed to be taken to minimise the losses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) (a) Super Bazar has reported that all areas of Super Bazar subjected to audit by the Internal Auditors and Statutory Auditors every year. The Control Room being only a medium for receiving information and passing on information from branches to the Head Office and *vice-versa* is not audited.

(b) Concurrent audit by the Statutory Auditors is conducted on quartarly basis and Internal Auditors carry on their audit throughout the year.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No, Sir. The accounting system of Super Bazar does not facilitate working out of department wise results.

(e) Mistakes pointed out by the auditors are taken note of and remedial measures are taken.

(f) Does not arise.

Rise in oil|pulses|grain price

736. PROF. VIJAY KUMAR MALHOTRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been aspurt in the oil|pulses|grain prices recently due to policies of Government;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into the reasons thereof;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken to check the rise in prices of edible oil, pulses and grain prices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

(d) The Government has given highest priority for controlling the rise in the prices of essential comodities including edible oils, pulses and grains. The Inter-Ministrial Coordination Committee for Monitoring and forecasting the prices and supply of essential commodities reviews the price scenario and advises the concerned authorities in take appropriate and timely action. Efforts are being made to increase the production. Commodities which are in short supply are being imported to supplement their easy availability in the market. Import of palmolein pulses etc. are placed under Open General Licence (OGL). Stringent action against hoarders, black marketeers and such other anti-social elements is being taken under the Essential commodities Act, 1955, and similar other legislations.

Non-availability of sugar in the F.P.S.

737. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 689 given in the Rajya Sabha on 13th June, 1994 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there was inordinate delay in the supply of sugar to the Fair Price Shops throughout the country causing inconvenience to the consumers; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to take steps to improve the working of these shops and if so, details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b)